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his ideas of constitutional law were philosophic rather than partisan, and, when Lincoln was elected, he opposed the secession of his state with all his force. To prevent the breach, he acted as a negotiator between Seward and the commissioners of the Provisional Government which had been set up by the seceding states, services which proved not only unavailing but, in a personal sense at least, disastrous, for he was blamed by a large part of contemporary opinion and by later historians for the misapprehension of the South as to the alleged promise to evacuate Fort Sumter. To prove that Judge Campbell was not only innocent of any deception but was himself deceived is one of the purposes of his biographer, and Judge Campbell's own account of the negotiations certainly tends to prove the strictures of Nicolay and Hay to be undeserved. Whatever may be the final word as to that controversy, when he saw the crisis could not be averted, Judge Campbell, like so many of his fellow Southerners who had desired to maintain the Union, felt it his duty to follow his state, and accordingly resigned his position as United States Justice, taking later in its place the position of Confederate Assistant Secretary of War. Just before the end of the war he acted again as mediator, being one of the commissioners who met Lincoln in the Hampton Roads Conference. After the war and a short imprisonment, he resumed his law practice in New Orleans, and appeared often before the court in which he had sat. He was of counsel in the Slaughter-House Cases, and that he argued so vigorously against the constitutionality of the Louisiana statute was not due to the accident of a retainer fee, but to his whole-hearted readiness to support what he believed to be the new theory of our government.

Judge Connor narrates this full life with discernment and with appreciation. His discussion of the important cases in which Judge Campbell gave opinions or argued gives an excellent indication of the development of our constitutional law during the period of which he writes. A good part of the book is devoted to Judge Campbell's part in Secession and Restoration. It is perhaps a sorry solace for the disappointments of the unsuccessful statesmen of moderation to reflect that some biographer will adequately demonstrate their farsightedness to a more appreciative generation, but Judge Campbell, if he entertained that thought, was fully justified. Not, indeed, that he needed solace for his own fate; he lived and died greatly respected by his community and his profession. His personality does not seem to have been one to have commanded a warmer affection, save from his intimates. He was reserved, almost austere; tall, thin, with a stern face, remarkable for its keen eyes and formidable brows. If he did not achieve the effect of the walking cathedral to which Webster was compared, at least people were awed by his presence. But he was kind and just, and even his austerity seems to have been only a defense against encroachments upon his legal meditations. His dignity was not so great but that he could cogitate while sitting upon a covered hydrant on the pavement, munching an apple, nor his reserve so unalterable but that he could take the arm of the young law clerk who came upon him in that posture and expound a point of law to him as profoundly as though the young man were a learned court. Nor does his preoccupation, no matter how intense, seem ever to have marred his courtesy.

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